

Activity	Category of Levees	Responsible Entity	Frequency	Purpose	Components
Routine Inspection	1, 2, 3	Corps	Annual	Verify O&M	Visual inspection using checklist
Periodic Inspection	1, 2	Corps	Every 5 years	Verify O&M, evaluating operational adequacy, structural stability and, safety of the system; and review design and construction criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of existing info Design criteria review Visual inspection Report of recommendations
NFIP Levee System Evaluations (certifications)	1, 2, 3, 4 with at least 100 year design	Local	Local - decides would like levee shown on FIRM or FEMA – when area is remapped or Corps – 10 years if no conditions change	NFIP: mapping, flood insurance, and floodplain management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of existing info Visual inspection Engineering analysis Internal drainage O&M Floodwarning
Levee Accreditation	1, 2, 3, 4 with at least 100 year design	FEMA	When locals submit documentation to FEMA	Verification that NFIP criteria have been met.	Confirm that all required docs have been submitted.

Categories of Levees

1. Federally authorized; Corps operated and maintained
2. Federally authorized in Corps program; locally operated and maintained
3. Nonfederally constructed; locally operated and maintained; in Corps Rehabilitation and Inspection Program (RIP, PL 84-99)
4. All other federal, state, local, or private levees outside of the Corps authorities.

Definitions

1. *Routine Inspection*: Visual inspection conducted annually to verify that the levee system is being properly operated and maintained.
2. *Periodic Inspection*: The next level of inspection and is conducted by a multidisciplinary team, led by a professional engineer. It includes a more detailed, comprehensive and consistent evaluation of the condition of the levee system and will be conducted every five years. Components include evaluating routine inspection items; verifying proper operation and maintenance; evaluating operational adequacy, structural stability and, safety of the system; and comparing current design and construction criteria with those in place when the levee was built.
3. *NFIP Levee System Evaluation (Levee Certification)*: A technical finding, which for the floodplain in question, that there is reasonable certainty that the levee system will satisfactorily perform at the 1% annual chance exceedance flood, also referred to as the 100-year or base flood. This information is used to determine how the area behind the levee system will be mapped for NFIP purposes and which flood insurance rates and other flood plain management requirements under the NFIP apply.
4. *Levee Accreditation*: When FEMA has verified that all the documentation to demonstrate that a levee system meets 44 CFR 65.10 has been submitted and has shown the levee on the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) as providing flood risk reduction from at least the 1% annual chance flood (or base flood).

Corps Periodic Inspections vs. NFIP Levee System Evaluations (or Levee Certifications)

NFIP Levee System Evaluation (Levee Certification)Criteria	Periodic Inspection
Visual inspection	X
Capacity exceedance/failure criteria	
Levee height assurance determination (1% annual flood or 100-year)	
Closure structures and devices	X
Embankment protection	X
Seepage/Underseepage analysis	
Embankment and foundation stability	
Settlement	
Seismic analysis (where appropriate)	
Ice issues (where appropriate)	
Electrical/Mechanical	X
Review of modifications and rehabilitation	X
Review of performance records	X
Review of encroachments	X
Interior Drainage	
Operations and maintenance	X
Emergency Response Plan	X